



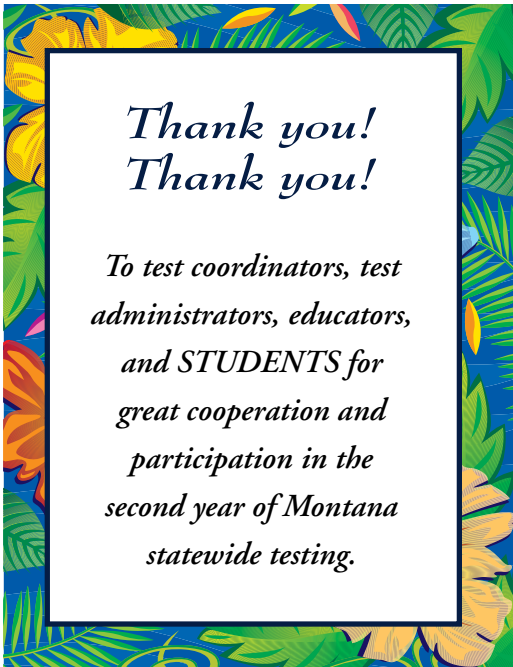
# Join Us In Measuring Progress

A Monthly  
Assessment Newsletter  
April 25, 2002

## Assessment for Learning

*Thank you!  
Thank you!*

*To test coordinators, test  
administrators, educators,  
and STUDENTS for  
great cooperation and  
participation in the  
second year of Montana  
statewide testing.*



### Spring Testing Results Arrive in Montana



The first batch of test results were mailed to fourteen Montana districts on April 12 and continue daily as they are completed.

After the April 8 deadline, seventy three districts were missing. That number began to decrease, and now every district is accounted for. Congratulations on a great effort.



Linda McCulloch, Superintendent  
Office of Public Instruction  
PO Box 202501  
Helena, MT 59620-2501  
[www.opi.state.mt.us](http://www.opi.state.mt.us)

### Refresher Video Broadcasts for ITBS/ITED Score Interpretation and Use

- Training and information video broadcasts on the Riverside reports will be conducted on May 9 and 14 from 9:00 am - 11:00 am.
- It is recommended that test coordinators and special education directors attend one of the sessions.
- Other district personnel are welcome.
- No advance registration is necessary.
- Please bring a copy of the "Interpretive Guide for ITBS/ITED."
- The 2001 "Guide" is available online in pdf format <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/Assessment/index.html> Scroll down the white area on the assessment home page. Please print a copy.
- If you are unable to attend, a video tape of the broadcast will be available from OPI. Contact Lindy Miller ([lindmiller@state.mt.us](mailto:lindmiller@state.mt.us) OR 406-444-6774) after May 14.
- After the sessions, Power Point presentations will be available on the assessment home page for use in schools and districts.

(continued on page 2)

### Thursday, May 9

9:00 am - 11:00 am

City	Site Information
Billings	MSU-Billings, 1500 N. 30th St., Special Ed. Bldg. Room 159
Bozeman	Montana State University, EPS Building, So. 7th and Grant, Burns Center, Room 126
Butte	Montana Tech, 1300 West Park Street, ELCB, Room 231
Great Falls	Great Falls College of Technology MSU, 2100 16th Ave. S., Room B-103
Havre	MSU-Northern, 300 11th Street West, Hagener Science Center, Room 202
Helena	Department of Public Health and Human Services, 111 Sanders Street, Lower Level Auditorium
Kalispell	Flathead Valley Community College, 777 Grandview Drive, Learning Resource Center, Room 120
Miles City	Miles Community College, 2715 Dickenson Street, Room 106
Missoula	University of Montana, Corner of Arthur and Eddy, Gallagher Building, Room 104

### Tuesday, May 14

9:00 am - 11:00 am

City	Site Location
Colstrip	6230 Main Street
Glasgow	Francis Mahon Deaconess Hospital, 621 3rd Street South
Sidney	Sidney Health Center, 216 14th Avenue SW

## Calculator Survey Begins

Because of continuing interest in the use of calculators on the statewide norm-referenced test, the Board of Public Education Assessment Advisory Committee asks your help in learning more about the classroom use of calculators in grades 4, 8, and 11.

This study **does not** include students with IEP's or 504 plans as there are calculator accommodations available for both.

The survey will be emailed to all district contacts and test coordinators with directions for completing and submitting it. In addition, it will be available online on the assessment homepage after April 30 <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/Assessment/index.html>

The deadline for returning the survey is May 20. Return the completed survey to: Lindy Miller, Office of Public Instruction, PO Box 202501, Helena, MT 59620-2501.



## Criterion-Referenced Test for Reading, Math, and Science Selected

Five proposals were received by the due date of March 15, 2002. The proposals were reviewed by an Evaluation Committee according to the criteria established in the RFP. The committee was comprised of nine individuals, three of whom represented OPI and six of whom represented districts and schools of various sizes from all across Montana.

The Evaluation Committee used a scoring matrix keyed to the RFP criteria for points to individually score the proposals. Before that was done, the committee discussed the proposals to explore how each measured up to the stated Board of Public Education criteria. Presentations were made by each of the Offerors with 40 minutes for each presentation followed by 20 minutes for questions from the committee. **Measured Progress** received the highest score, and BJ Granbery, the committee chair, forwarded a recommendation on behalf of the committee to the State Procurement Bureau.

## Havre to Host "ADAPTS" Training August 14-16, 2002

The American Productivity & Quality Center (APQC), in partnership with the Council of Chief State School Officers, was awarded a \$833,897 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to train educators in data disaggregation and instructional strategies.

The training focuses on helping school districts learn how to:

- Disaggregate student assessment data in order to review data at the "item" level, organized by school, grade, subject, student, assessment, question, answer, teacher, and for all sub-groups by race, gender, or socioeconomic condition
- Use these data to alter instructional strategies to increase student achievement for all children
- Implement quality tools for continuous and systemic improvement across the district

In addition, a national "Knowledge Sharing Network" will be created among the participants for exchanging ideas and best practices, asking questions, networking, and sharing experiences.

This exciting program begins with training August 14-16, 2002, in Havre, Montana. Participating districts **MUST** be experienced data users and committed to providing leadership in Data Strategies for their region. **WE NEED Eastern and Central region SCHOOL DISTRICT TEAMS!** Space is limited. Please call Chris Provance at (406) 444-4436 if your district would be interested in participating. Districts already signed up are Great Falls, Golden Triangle, Havre, and Frenchtown.

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## Good News:

**Test Coordinators do not  
need to complete and submit  
an Iowa Test Materials  
Inventory to OPI this year.**

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**For further information, contact:**

**Judy Snow**

**State Assessment Director**

**Montana Office of Public Instruction**

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**Helena, MT 59620-2501**

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